

**By his excellency Francis Bernard, Esq; captain-general and governor in chief in and over His Majesty's province of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and vice-admiral of the same a brief [Regarding the fire in Montreal on the 11th of April 1768 and requesting contributions] . Given at Boston the ninth day of July 1768. Boston**

By His EXCELLENCY FRANCIS BERNARD, Esq; Captain-General and Governor in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

A BRIEF.

WHEREAS on the Eleventh Day of *April* last past a dreadful Fire happened at the City of *Montreal* in the Province of *Canada*, by which Eighty-eight Houses have been burnt down, and above One Hundred Families have been turned into the Streets, in want of every Necessary of Life; and this Calamity has been very much heightened by its happening so soon after the former great Fire there, and before the Sufferers by that could have recovered them themselves, and by its falling upon the other Part of the Town by which these unhappy People cannot be relieved by the immediate Neighbors, but are under the Necessity of depending upon their Fellow-Subjects at a distance, for being saved from perishing.

AND WHEREAS the General Court of this Province having, upon my Recommendation, taken the Premises into Consideration, and regarding them with Humanity and Universal Charity, considered that according to the Principles our holy Religion, not only our Fellow-Subjects in a distant Province, but all Mankind are our Neighbors when their Misery require our Assistance, according to which Principles the Capital of this Province did upon a like Occasion experience the Benevolence of the Subjects of a great Part of the King's Dominions; have desired that I would send Briefs the Province to represent to the Inhabitants the Distress of these Sufferers, and to call upon them for a general Contribution for their Relief:

I DO therefore hereby most earnestly recommend to the good People of this Province, that upon a tender Consideration of the Premises, they would exercise their Christian Benevolence Occasion, by contributing to the Relief of the Distresses of these true Objects of their Charity, in Proportion to the Means wherewith God hath blessed them. And I desire that what collected upon this Occasion, may be paid into the Hands of the Treasurer of the Province, to be by him remitted for the Use of the Sufferers.

AND I do desire that the Ministers of the several Churches, Parishes and Houses of Worship within this Province, will read or cause to be read this Brief to their several Congregations or second Lord's-Day after they shall receive the same, as they shall judge most convenient.

*GIVEN at Boston the Ninth Day of July, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-eight. In the Eight Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of GOD, of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.*

*Fra. Bernard.*

By Excellency's Command, A. Oliver, Secr'y.

GOD save the KING.

*BOSTON:* Printed by Richard Draper, Printer to His Excellency the Governor, and the Honourable His Majesty's Council, 1768.

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The Rev d Mr Hover & Watertown

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